



Wyoming Department of Health

Funding Opportunity Announcement:

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Ombudsman Title VII of the OAA
(2101WYOMC6-00)

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American Rescue Plan (ARP) Ombudsman Program Under the Older Americans Act (2101WYOMC6-00)

Table of Contents

1. Overview Information	2
2. Full Text Announcement	5
A. Funding Opportunity Description	5
B. Award Information	6
C. Eligibility Information	7
D. Application and Submission Information	7
E. Application Review & Selection Information	8
F. Award Administration Information	8
G. Agency Contacts	8
H. Right to Amend or Withdraw	8

1. Overview Information

Participating Organization(s)	Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) - Aging Division (AGD)
Components of Participating Organization(s)	WDH - AGD, Wyoming State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (SLTCOP)
Funding Opportunity Title	American Rescue Plan (ARP) Ombudsman Program under the Older Americans Act
Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number	AGD-2101WYOMC6-00
Announcement Type	New
Number of Applicants	No limit (while funding is available)
Funding Opportunity Purpose	<p>The WDH's mission is to promote, protect, and enhance the health of all Wyoming citizens. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to promote, protect, and enhance the health of vulnerable adults, 60 years and older in Wyoming.</p> <p>On March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) was signed into law by President Biden. Section 2921 of the law appropriated \$1.434 billion to remain available until expended to carry out the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA). Within the funding appropriated, the law indicates that of the amounts available, the funding should be provided for Long Term Care Ombudsman program as follows:</p> <p>\$10,000,000 shall be available to carry out the Long Term Care Ombudsman program under Title VII.</p> <p>Of this Federal appropriation, Wyoming received \$49,750. Of which \$49,750 is available for this grant to expand, or enhance Title VII Ombudsman Program opportunities for vulnerable adults living in Nursing Homes, Boarding Homes, Assisted Living Facilities at home, and in their communities in Wyoming.</p> <p>This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications to receive grants from the ARP Ombudsman Program Grant. Applications should propose projects that demonstrate meeting the needs of the vulnerable adults in Wyoming such as those in Title VII, Chapter 2. Including, but not limited to, projects that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protect the rights of individuals in nursing homes, assisted living, boarding homes and similar residential care settings;

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Educate on elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation; 3. Enhance legal assistance development; 4. Advocate for policy change to improve the lives of the vulnerable adults; 5. Promote the development of citizen organizations, and resident and family councils; and 6. Preserve the vulnerable adult's independence, dignity, rights, autonomy, and freedom of choice. <p>The WDH - Ombudsman program will award a grant of up to \$49,750 from the Ombudsman Program Title VII fund. Applications will be reviewed and scored by an advisory committee. Awardees will be selected amongst the highest-scoring applications. The final award amounts and count of awards will be subject to the Department's discretion. At all times, the WDH - Ombudsman Program reserves the discretion to award zero (0) grants.</p> <p>All grants awarded under this FOA are subject to the terms and conditions issued under the authority of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, P.L. 117-2 for activities authorized under Title VII, Chapter 2 of the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131, enacted March 25, 2020.</p> <p>Before applying, applicants are encouraged visit ACL's website at https://www.acl.gov/grants/managing-grant to view some of these terms and conditions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment • SAM.gov / UEI Requirement • National Policies including Trafficking Victims Protection Act, Whistleblower Protections, and DOMA: Implementation of Same-Sex Spouses/Marriages • Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) • Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS).
Key Dates	
Posted Date	October 27, 2023
Open Date (Earliest Submission Date)	October 27, 2023
Application Due Date (Last Submission Date)	February 29, 2024 Applications will remain open while funds are available or until the due date listed above.
Advisory Committee Review	Generally, monthly while funds are available.
Earliest Start Date	Generally, two months after the advisory council review date and subject to state contracting and vendor management requirements.

Expiration Date	September 30, 2024
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2. Full Text Announcement

A. Funding Opportunity Description

i. Purpose

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications to receive grants from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Aging Services Grant for Wyoming. The purpose of the grant funds are to provide Title VII Chapter 2 services to vulnerable adults living in Wyoming communities, outside of institutional placement.

Awardees will receive funding for approved projects up to September 30, 2024.

ii. Background

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) was signed into law by President Biden. Section 2921 of the law appropriated \$1.434 billion, nationally, to remain available until expended to carry out the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA). Within the funding appropriated, the law indicates that of the amounts available, the funding should be provided as follows:

- (1) \$750,000,000 shall be available to carry out part C of title III.
- (2) \$25,000,000 shall be available to carry out title VI of such Act, including part C of such title.
- (3) \$460,000,000 shall be available to carry out part B of title III of such Act, including for— (A) supportive services of the types made available for fiscal year 2020; (B) efforts related to COVID–19 vaccination outreach, including education, communication, transportation, and other activities to facilitate vaccination of older individuals; and (C) prevention and mitigation activities related to COVID–19 focused on addressing extended social isolation among older individuals, including activities for investments in technological equipment and solutions or other strategies aimed at alleviating negative health effects of social isolation due to long-term stay-at-home recommendations for older individuals for the duration of the COVID– 19 public health emergency.
- (4) \$44,000,000 shall be available to carry out part D of title III.
- (5) \$145,000,000 shall be available to carry out part E of title III.
- (6) \$10,000,000 shall be available to carry out the long-term care ombudsman program under title VII. Grantees must expend funds on allowable activities.**

This FOA regards the \$49,750 (OMC6) American Rescue Plan (ARP) for the Long-term care ombudsman program of the OAA appropriation to the Wyoming Department of Health, (WDH) Aging Division (AGD).

iii. Objective and Scope

The objective of this FOA is to fund projects that demonstrate meeting needs of vulnerable adults in Wyoming.

Projects that act on behalf of recipients of long-term care services and those in the community, in Wyoming, that advocate for adequacy of care received, quality of life, and that preserve recipient's independence, dignity, rights, autonomy, and freedom of choice.

Applications should propose projects that demonstrate meeting the needs of the vulnerable adults in Wyoming such as those in Title VII. Including, but not limited to:

1. Protect the rights of individuals in nursing homes, assisted living, boarding homes and

- similar residential care settings,
- 2. Educate about elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation,
- 3. Enhance legal assistance development,
- 4. Advocate for policy change to improve the lives of the vulnerable adults,
- 5. Promote the development of citizen organizations, and resident and family councils, and
- 6. Preserve the older adult's independence, dignity, rights, autonomy, and freedom of choice.

Next, the project must target and provide services to eligible individuals under the Older Americans Act. Eligibility information can be found on the ACL website [here](#).

And finally, the project must prioritize one of the six areas listed above. It is acceptable for applicants to propose a project that impacts more than one area, however, the project should have a clear focus on one.

Projects under this FOA are limited by federal law. The \$49,750 available through the ARP Title VII Fund are funded by the ARP Program. Each application will need to expressly establish how the proposed project is permitted to be funded under the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131, enacted March 25, 2020.

iv. Reporting Requirements

Grants awarded under this FOA are subject to the following reporting requirements:

For grant awardees providing direct services to eligible participants, the awardee must collect documentation as prescribed by WDH - AGD and report no less than annually the types of services provided in addition to participation rates for each eligible participant. Depending on the scope of the project proposed, the WDH - AGD will coordinate with successful applicants to determine the most appropriate form of reporting to satisfy federal grant monitoring requirements. Regardless of these requirements, applicants should demonstrate the expected outcomes and effectiveness of their proposed project in the application.

v. Funding Match Requirements

Grants awarded under this FOA do not require a State and Local match requirement..

B. Award Information

Funding Instrument	Monetary grant: a support mechanism providing money to an eligible entity to carry out an approved project or activity
Anticipated Number of Awards and Funds Available	Unlimited - until all funds are encumbered. Each award is available out of the \$49,750 Title VII Ombudsman Program Fund. As noted in this FOA, the WDH reserves the right to award zero (0) grants and expend zero (0) dollars.
Award Ceiling	\$49,750
Award Floor	\$5,000
Award Budget	Funds may be used only for those expenses that are directly related and necessary to the project and must be expended in compliance with 45 C.F.R. Part 75.

Award Project Period	The duration of the entire award may not exceed beyond September 30, 2024. All funds must be spent by September 30, 2024.
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C. Eligibility Information

Any entity legally-authorized to operate in Wyoming is eligible to apply.

D. Application and Submission Information

There is no application form or template. However, an application must include all of the following elements:

1. Cover Page
 - a. Identify or name the entity submitting the application.
 - b. Provide a brief description of the project proposal, in no more than three to five sentences.
 - c. Identify a point of contact for the application, including name, position/title, address, phone number, and email address.
2. Entity Information
 - a. Provide the entity's mission statement.
 - b. Provide a brief history of the entity.
 - c. Describe the entity's current programs and activities.
 - d. Describe a few top accomplishments of the entity within the last three years.
 - e. Provide the entity's IRS Employer Identification Number (EIN).
 - f. Provide a Certificate of Good Standing from the Secretary of State.
 - g. Provide the entity's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number to demonstrate they are registered with [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov). Note: The entity must remain in good standing throughout the duration of the grant award period.
 - h. List the Board of Directors, or other relevant leadership.
3. Project Proposal
 - a. Describe the project, answering the following questions:
 - i. How does the project "innovate," meaning to introduce or make changes in some established programs, especially by introducing new methods or ideas?
 - ii. How does the project pertain to Older American Act Title VII, seeking to enhance the rights and safety of Wyoming's vulnerable adult population?
 - iii. How does the project prioritize the needs of the vulnerable adult?
 - iv. How does the project enhance the vulnerable adult's safety, independence, dignity, rights, autonomy, and freedom of choice.
 - b. Describe how the project is eligible under the ARP Program. This description must include the following elements:
 - i. An analysis of how the project is permitted under the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131, enacted March 25, 2020.
 - ii. Pincite(s) to the specific provision under the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131, enacted March 25, 2020, applied above.
 - c. Describe how the innovation underlying the proposed project is scalable and can be adopted by others.
 - d. Describe the Wyoming population(s) impacted by the proposed project and underlying innovation.
 - e. Describe all participants, users, clients, and other Wyoming residents who will be involved in or impacted by the proposed project.

- f. Describe any partners in the proposed project, including the partner’s role and the relationship with them.
 - g. Identify the staff and leadership who will be involved in the proposed project and provide their resume(s).
 - h. Provide a detailed timeline of the proposed project that shows major milestones.
 - i. Describe the budget for the proposed project, including funding sources, allocations,, and any relevant restrictions on the use of funds – outside of the ARP program. Attach supporting documentation as appropriate.
 - j. Describe the plan for the financial sustainability of the proposed project or underlying innovation after the grant award has been exhausted.
4. Evaluation Information
- a. Describe the desired outcomes and how these will be measured over time.
 - b. Describe the evaluation design, including the data collection and statistical methodologies that might be employed to estimate effects.

Applicants are encouraged to format their applications in a manner that reflects the enumerated elements above. For example, the application should provide the entity’s IRS EIN under section or paragraph “2.e,” or a reasonable alternative. This will assist the review to ensure the application is complete. Please be advised if an application is not well-organized, does not clearly address all of the enumerated elements above, or is otherwise of a lower quality, the application may receive a lower score compared to other submissions.

Each application must be submitted to the WDH - SLTCOP via email at patricia.hall1@wyo.gov Applications may be submitted no later than Thursday, February 29, 2024.

E. Application Review & Selection Information

Each application will be reviewed and scored by an advisory committee established by the SLTCOP. This committee may include members outside of the WDH, including community and HHS stakeholders. The scoring of applications will be based on a rubric that accounts for how well the application satisfies the elements established under this FOA.

The SLTCOP will review the highest-scoring applications and independently select awardees based upon the purpose and objectives of the project or program. Since the SLTCOP must be a responsible steward of taxpayer funds, the SLTCOP reserves the right to not award any grants, in the event the SLTCOP determines there are insufficient applications of merit.

F. Award Administration Information

All grants awarded under this FOA are subject to the terms and conditions imposed upon the ARP Program. All grants are also subject to State of Wyoming contracting and vendor management requirements.

G. Agency Contacts

Questions regarding this FOA may be submitted to patricia.hall1@wyo.gov

H. Right to Amend or Withdraw

At all times, the SLTCOP reserves the right to amend or withdraw this FOA. In the event the SLTCOP substantially changes application criteria and an applicant has already submitted an application, the SLTCOP will provide the applicant notice of the change and an opportunity to supplement the application, as necessary.